laning of 20 sections of National Highways, totalling to a length of about 272 kms. is in progress.

Double Laning of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

278. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the National Highways passing through Andhra Pradesh remain single lane; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to release resources from Central Road Fund to double lane these highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Highways are widened to two lane out of available National Highway (Original) funds and there is no proposal at present to release resources from Central Road Fund for this purpose.

Allahabad-Haldia National Waterway

279. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Waterway Number 1 to be ready in October" which appeared in the Statesman, dated the 27th June, 2000; and

(b) if so, the latest status of Allahabad-Haldia National Waterway Number 1?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From end June, 2 meter Least Available Depth (LAD) is available from Allahabad to Haldia on National Waterway-1. Action is also in hand to sustain the LAD.

Norms for Highways Construction Projects

280. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

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